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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

HM-612PCT

Applicant(s) : Walter Trakowski, et al  
Serial No. : NOT YET KNOWN (PCT/EP03/03219)  
Int. Filed : March 28, 2003  
For : USE OF SEPARATION GAS IN CONTINUOUS HOT DIP METAL FINISHING

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

The attention of the Examiner and of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references cited in the International Search Report, a copy of which is attached. Copies of the references are forwarded herewith and are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

With the submission of this admitted prior art, applicant thus complies with the duty of disclosure as set forth at 37 CFR 1.56.

Respectfully submitted,

FK:ml  
December 28, 2004  
Encls: PTO-1449  
w/seven (7) references

*In Kueffner*  
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I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express mail under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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Form PTO-1449  LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT										Docket No.: HM-612PCT	Serial No.: not known (PCT/EP03/03219)								
										Applicant: Walter Trakowski, et al									
										Int. Filed: March 28, 2003					Group:				

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Init.		Document Number		Date	NAME	Class	Subclass	Filing Date if appropriate
	AA	4	8	6	2	8	2	5
	9/89	FONTAINE						
	AB	6	2	2	4	6	9	2
	5/01	CANTACUZENE						
	AC	3	7	3	8	8	6	1
	3/63	SCIFFER ET AL						
	AD							
	AE							
	AF							
	AG							
	AH							

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number		Date	COUNTRY	Class	Subclass	TRANSLATION	
								Yes	No
	AI	2	0	5	GREAT BRITAIN				
	2	0	5	0	4	3	2	1/81	
	AL	6	1	7	0	2	4	7/35	GERMANY
	6	1	7	0	2	4			X
	AM								
	AN								
	AO								

## OTHER PRIOR ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

AP	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, VOL. 2000, NO. 01, JANUARY 31, 2000 &						
	JP 11 279730 A (NISSHIN STEEL CO LTD), OCTOBER 12, 1999						
AQ	PATENT ABSTRACTS OF JAPAN, VOL. 1995, NO. 10, NOVEMBER 30, 1995 &						
	JP 07 180014 A (NIPPON STEEL CORP), JULY 18, 1995						
AR							
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED		